

Chairman's Report: Thursday, March 26, 1998

For
May 15
mailing

1. Call to Order/Attendance.

PAT: Call on Margit

2. Public Comments.

PAT: Open the floor to public comments on items NOT on the agenda.

3. Minutes of the January 22, 1998 Meeting.

PAT: Needs motion and Second; Voice Vote.

4. Chairman's Report.

PAT:

Introduce RON BREAN, new Commissioner representing Department of Parks and Recreation. Ron is the District Supervisor for the Gold Rush District that includes the foothills, Old Town Sacramento, and the Delta area.

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 28, 1998: Tentatively scheduled:

1. Discussion of CALFED Draft Environmental Impact Report
2. Consideration of Solano County's Submittal re: Amendment of the Commission's Plan re P-3
3. Vote on Sacramento County's Submittal re: Amendment of the Commission's Plan re p-3
4. Work Plan and Budget for FY 98-99

Two Subcommittee meetings have been set:

▷ CALFED Subcommittee: Monday, April 20, 1998 at 3:00 p.m.
To Review Preliminary Draft Comments on the Environmental Document

▷ Budget and Finance Subcommittee: Wednesday, April 29, 1998 at 4:00 p.m.
To Review Budget and Work Plan for FY 98-99

Upcoming Event:

Rededication of the Jepsen Prairie Preserve which has been transferred to the Solano County Farmlands and Open Space Foundation: the event is April 19, 1998.

5. Attorney General's Report.

PAT: Call on Dan Siegel.

6. Executive Director's Report.

PAT: Call on Margit.

I would like to introduce Lori Clamurro, our new employee. Lori is a Sacramento native and graduated from UC. Davis last June with a degree in Environmental Policy Analysis and Planning. She had an internship with the Department of Parks and Recreation, and working in the Department of Conservation's Land Resource Protection Division which administers the Williamson Act program.

Since starting work at the beginning of February, ^{she} who has been attending CALFED meetings, including: Ecosystem Restoration Workgroup, Ecosystem Roundtable, Water Transfers Work Group, and Assurances Work Group. She has also attended Delta In Channel island Work Group, the Delta Levees and Habitat Advisory Committee meeting and the meeting of the Implementation Committee of the San Francisco Estuary Project. This is in addition to special research projects and tracking of pending legislation.

Last Mailing: 1) Letter re CVPIA DEIR; 2) Letter to CALFED and attached verified figures for ERPP program in the Delta; 3) Annual Report; and 4) Final Recreation Inventory.

Current Mailing: 1) 1998 Spending Plan for Category III grants for Ecosystem Restoration; CALFED Public Hearing on DEIR on May 6 at 7 p.m. at the Jean Harvie Community Center; 3) Summary of 1996 Regional Monitoring Plan for the Bay, which includes two sites at the western edge of the Delta.

Note: in 1998 Category III grants: on page 7, # 31: this is a \$500,000 grant to try to resolve some of the issues identified by the Regional Board about dredging, but which they have neither the funds nor the staff to carry out needed research. The funds will be overseen by the Delta Levees Habitat Advisory Committee; which your staff participates on, along with Corps, DFG, DWR, SLC, and engineers representing most of the Districts. The Regional Board prepared three general orders and a negative declaration to speed up regulation of dredging; however, they decided that a neg dec was inadequate and a full EIR must be prepared; however they did not have all the information needed to prepare a full EIR. SO this grant will hopefully address those outstanding environmental issues.

ACTIVITIES Since January Meeting:

BDAC

CALFED Levees and Channels Technical Group.

In-Channel Island Work Group: Received first phase of grant to carry out PILOT project to use techniques other than riprap to protect in-channel islands: going to CORPS pre-project meeting on April 2.

Delta Partners: through Coast Guard--State and Local Agencies re Delta issues; briefing on the grant program to remove abandoned vessels--SB 172-Rainey last year.

Met with US Fish and Wildlife Service staff re EIR preparation for North Delta Component of Stone Lakes Wildlife Refuge--Prospect Island, Little Holland Tract and Liberty Island-- if all sites acquired and restored, would be managed by Service.

Presentation to Delta Chambers re DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION and ongoing Delta issues.

Participated on Advisory Committee for Great Valley Center--new nonprofit group dedicated to regional issues in the Central Valley.

7.

Pending Projects Memo

PAT: Any Questions or Corrections on the Pending Projects Memo?

8.

Public Hearing on Submittal from Sacramento County Regarding Conformance with Amendment to the Land Use and Resource Management Plan for the Primary Zone of the Delta.

PAT: This is a public hearing on Sacramento County's proposed General Plan amendment. The County proposes to include Utilities and Infrastructure Policy P-3 in the Commission's Plan that has been adopted into the County's General Plan as a policy document. As you may recall, the County originally adopted the Commission's Plan, but excepted Utilities and Infrastructure P-3.

CALL ON MARGIT.

MARGIT: You have before you the staff report describing the proposal received from Sacramento County. Sacramento County's proposal is different than the others recently reviewed by the Commission--Sacramento County is actually proposing a new General

Plan amendment to include P-3 as part of the Delta Plan incorporated by reference into the County's General Plan. The Commission will hold a public hearing tonight and vote at the May meeting. The proposal has been reviewed by staff and we preliminarily believe the proposed County action would be in compliance with the Commission's Act and Plan.

PAT: Any Commissioner questions for staff?

PAT: I will now open the public hearing; are there any comments?

PAT: I will allow submittal of written comments until April 10, 1998; at that time the public hearing will be closed.

PAT: Any Commissioner discussion?

9. Briefing on CALFED Program.

PAT: I am pleased to introduce Lester Snow, Director, of the CALFED program who will brief the Commission. Please note the CALFED Draft Environmental Impact Report was released on March 16; you have received a copy of the Executive Summary tonight. Additional information is available.

LESTER:

PAT: Call for questions from the Commission for Lester.

PAT: If necessary, allow public comments from the floor, but try to deflect questions until the public hearing on May 6, 1998 when more staff will be available.

[No Action]

10. Status of Legislation to Extend the Sunset Date of the Commission and Amend the Text of the Delta Protection Act of 1992.

PAT: At the January meeting the Commission voted to request a ten year extension of the sunset date. A subcommittee meeting was held in February to discuss possible changes to the Delta Protection Act. At the Subcommittee meeting various ideas were discussed, but generally the group believed the current legislation is adequate, and no substantive changes need to be made. The recommendation of the subcommittee is now before the full Commission for discussion.

CALL ON MARGIT

MARGIT: the time extension has been amended into an old bill, left over from last year's

session; SB 1075. As you can see, Senator Johnston has proposed two changes: page one, middle of the page: a TE until January 1, 2010; and bottom of page 1, a paragraph which states "the Commission MAY act as the facilitating agency of the implementation of any joint habitat restoration or enhancement programs located within the primary zone". Met with Resources Agency staff on March 13--still waiting for formal position--no issues raised; Commissioner McGowan and I represented the Commission before Assembly Natural Resources Committee on March 16--no issues raised.

PAT: Any questions of staff by Commission?

PAT: Any Public Comments?

PAT: Bring back to Commission for discussion. One issue that was discussed briefly by the subcommittee is the issue of the term limits on the water agency representatives--they are limited to two terms, and if the Commission is extended, all five the water agency/reclamation district representatives would be forced to leave the Commission at the same time. I think we should recommend some form of staggered term expiration be included in the legislation.

Needs motion, second and VOICE VOTE.

11. Consideration of Waiver Recognizing Attorney General Representation of Both the Delta Protection Commission and CALFED.

PAT: Call on Dan Siegel.

DAN:

PAT: Call for Commission discussion; needs Motion, Second; and Voice Vote.

12. Commissioner Comments/Announcements.

PAT: Ask if any comments or announcements.

13. Adjournment.

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 28.